

**New Haven Board of Commissioners**  
**Special Meeting – May 7, 2015**  
**City Hall @ 6PM**

**Present:** Mayor Jeff Rogers, Commissioner Jane Masse, Commissioner Nicole Pinkston, Commissioner Mike Morris, Commissioner Chris Cecil, Fred DeWitt, Keith Bartley, Corey Holbert, Randy Patrick (media), Linda Mattingly and Joanie Corbin

**14/15 Budget Changes**

**Electrical Work at the Pool** - Keith reported that Pat Carey said the electrical upgrade will be no cheaper than \$15,000, but could go up much higher in price. After lengthy discussion, consensus of the board was for Mike to contact an electrical contractor that he knew and to see if he would bid the project. Jane suggested that the contractor meet with the inspector to verify exactly what is going to be required. The electrical upgrade was tabled until bids/quotes can be obtained. If the information is received before the May 21 regular meeting, a special meeting will be called to make a decision on whether or not to proceed with repairs.

Discussion took place about **Joanie's promotion to City Clerk/Treasurer**. A motion was made by Nicole to increase Joanie's wages by \$1. Jane seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Linda informed the board that the clerks were working on a **14/15 budget amendment** to be approved at the May 21 regular board meeting.

**15/16 Budget Workshop**

After reviewing the **Water Rate Analysis** provided by the clerks, a motion was made by Chris to increase the water/sewer bills by 2% for the 15/16 budget. Jane seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

FYI – The **cost of living (COLA) wage increase** for the employees will be followed per City Compensation Plan. FYI – 2015 cost of living adjustment is 1.7%

The clerks asked the board to consider giving an increase in the amount the employees receive monthly on the **flexible benefits program**. Discussion followed. Chris made a motion to leave the flexible benefits at the current rate of \$550.00. Nicole seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The board discussed whether or not to hire another **employee for the water/sewer department**. Consensus of the board was to include a new general laborer in the 15/16 budget.

Nicole stated that she wanted an extra \$5000 in the fire department budget for the 15/16 fiscal year. Fred DeWitt stated that he would like to implement the following:

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If a firefighter attends a full training, they would receive \$10.

If a firefighter responds to the scene on a call, they would receive \$20.

If a firefighter reports to the fire station, but does not go to the scene, they would receive \$15.

Fred would like to be compensated \$20 per meeting that he attends, while representing the New Haven Fire Dept. He stated that he attends 5 meetings a month.

This incentive would be presented to the firefighters at their annual banquet in January.

The clerks will work on preparing an ordinance for the pay classification for the Fire Department to be approved during the May 21 regular board meeting.

**Other Budget Issues** - Nicole stated that she wanted to make sure that money was set aside to install **security cameras** at City Hall in the 15/16 budget.

A motion was made by Jane to appoint Jeff Rogers, Joanie Corbin, Chris Cecil and Charles Lemons to a committee to review the **Code of Conduct**. Mike seconded the motion.

**Code of Ethics** - No action was taken.

Chris stated that he felt that the employees should not have been paid when they were not at work during the most recent **inclement weather**. Nicole agreed. They felt that the only way an employee should be paid if they were unable to make it to work during inclement weather would be to take PTO time. The clerks stated that they were sent home on the 1<sup>st</sup> day at noon and were told City Hall was closed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day and not to report to work. Joanie stated that she forwarded and answered the phones at her house on both days. Consensus of the board was to make a policy about inclement weather for the future.

Chris made a motion to **adjourn** the meeting. Mike seconded the motion.

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Mayor

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Clerk

